

BEFORE THE DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING  
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
STATE OF UTAH

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IN THE MATTER OF TENTATIVE	:	
DECISION TO APPROVE THE	:	NOTICE OF TENTATIVE
MINING AND RECLAMATION PLAN	:	DECISION TO APPROVE
COTTER CORPORATION'S PAPOOSE	:	NO. M/037/084
MINE, SAN JUAN COUNTY, UTAH	:	

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THE STATE OF UTAH TO ALL OPERATORS, TAKERS OF  
PRODUCTION, MINERAL AND ROYALTY OWNERS, AND PARTICULARLY ALL  
PERSONS INTERESTED IN SECTION 36, TOWNSHIP 29 ½ SOUTH, RANGE 24  
EAST, SLBM, SAN JUAN COUNTY, UTAH.

Notice is hereby given by the Division of Oil, Gas and Mining of its tentative decision to approve Cotter Corporation's Mining and Reclamation Plan for the Papoose Mine. Limestone mining activities will effect the following area: 20 acres located in NE/4 NW/4; NW/4 NW/4; SE/4 NW/4; SW/4 NW/4 and NE/4 SW/4 Section 36, Township 29 ½ South, Range 24 East, SLBM, San Juan County, Utah.

Cotter Corporation has submitted a permit application to expand their existing small mining operation to include the following changes:

The shallow open pit will increase in length to the southeast. The pit and associated mining disturbance will encompass approximately 20 acres over a ten year period. Mining methods will remain the same as for the current small mining operation.

The operator will employ the following mining and reclamation techniques on approximately 20 acres of State School Trust land.

**During Operations**

Trees and brush will be stripped, winrowed, or piled using a bulldozer. Salvagable soil will be stripped and stockpiled. The limestone deposit will be drilled and blasted approximately once a month. All access ways to the site will be closed by barricades and/or guarded during blasting. Maximum vertical highwall height will be approximately 20 feet. Run of mine rock will be mucked and trammed by a loader to a portable jaw crusher. The limestone will be crushed and screened to a minus 10 inch to plus ½ inch size, then stockpiled prior to truck shipment. Water sprays will

be used as necessary to minimize dust emissions from the crusher. Berms have been constructed around the stockpile area to control erosion. The crushing and stockpile areas will periodically be moved to the southeast as the pit advances in that direction. Concurrent reclamation will be performed as mine development progresses to the point where it is practical.

### **Following Operations**

Prior to pit abandonment, the highwall will be cut or backfilled with course reject material to a slope of less than 45°. Stockpiled topsoil will be spread to a 12 inch depth forming small islands which will then be scarified using bulldozers and front-end loaders. The seedbed will be harrowed or disked to a 6 inch depth. Subsequent broadcast seeding will be lightly scarified or raked. A few of the original trees will be scattered across any reclaimed areas. During the third year of operations, concurrent reclamation should begin on previously mined areas. Any buildings and related mining equipment will be removed from the site. Any remaining reject materials resulting from sizing operations will be disposed of in the pit or used to contour the pit walls to a 45° configuration before application of topsoil. Cotter will replace the salvaged topsoil in "islands" at a minimum depth of 12 inches rather than spread the topsoil in a thin veneer over the entire disturbed area.

The person representing the company is Mr. Jon Showalter; Phone (970) 864-7347. Cotter Corporation is fulfilling obligations under the Utah Mined Land Reclamation Act of 1975, Utah Code Ann. §40-8-18.

Any person or agency aggrieved by this tentative decision to issue approval is hereby requested to submit written protest within thirty (30) days of the date of publication to Lowell Braxton, Associate Director of Mining, Division of Oil, Gas and Mining, 355 West North Temple, 3 Triad Center, Suite 350, Salt Lake City, Utah 84180-1203, setting forth factual reasons for the complaint. If no responsive written protests are received by the Division within 30 days after the last date of publication, the tentative decision of the Division will be final.

DATED THIS 4th day of September 1995.

STATE OF UTAH  
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

*Lowell P. Braxton*  
*for*

James W. Carter  
Director



## CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that I caused a true and correct copy of the foregoing Notice of Tentative Approval for Cause No. M/037/084 to be mailed by first class mail, postage prepaid, the 5th day of September, 1995 to:

Salt Lake Tribune  
Legal Advertising  
143 South Main  
P. O. Box 867  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84110

San Juan Record  
Legal Advertising  
937 East Highway 666  
P. O. Box 879  
Monticello, Utah 84535

CERTIFIED RETURN RECEIPT  
P 074 978 953  
Glen Williams  
Manager, Western Slope Operations  
Cotter Corporation  
P. O. Box 700  
Nucla, Colorado 81424

John Blake  
School and Institutional Trust Lands Administration  
355 West North Temple, Suite 400  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84180-1204

  
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Joelle Burns